

# THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

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### General Summary of News.

#### EUROPE.

There are a great number of valuable Cabinet Pictures and Miniatures in Buckingham House, which were the private property of the Queen, though they are not mentioned in Her Majesty's Will, and the hall and staircase display some of the finest works of the elegant artist Canaletti, painted when he was in England. These will probably now be added to the Prince Regent's Collection. The celebrated Cartoons of Raphael were formerly placed in Buckingham House, but have since been removed to Hampton Court, where they now remain.

That most curious and well-preserved specimen of ancient art, Mount Calvary, after being 400 years an altar-piece in a Convent at Siena is arrived at the European Museum, St. James's-square, and destined, we understand, for Arundel Castle.

The Duke of Buccleugh does not go to the South of France for the recovery of his health, but to Lisbon, by sea. His Grace was to be accompanied by Captain Ferguson, and the Honorable Mr. Home, son of the Earl of Home.

T. Hooke, Esq. Accountant-general at the Mauritius, arrived home in the Prince Regent. This gentleman was sent to England by General Hall, the Commander in Chief at the Mauritius, under arrest, upon a charge of inaccuracy of accounts. On his arrival at Portsmouth, he was released by order from the Secretary of State's Office.

The terms demanded by Madame Catalani for her talents at the Opera-house for the season of 1819, were, a sum of 5000*l.* a benefit to produce 1000*l.* a coach, a dinner of 14 covers daily, and liberty to sing at Concerts, &c. as she pleased. It is almost superfluous to add, that those extravagant terms were refused.

We are desired to contradict a statement which appeared a few days since, of the nomination of the Earl of Home to be Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. No such nomination, was, nor is, we are informed, in contemplation.

A London Paper states that a Gentleman, who had 200 one pound notes of old dates, signed by Abraham Newland, received in exchange, at a respectable house in the City, 208*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* being a premium of 10*d.* upon every 2*l.*, such notes being exchangeable for gold!

The new operation (according to a London Journal,) for the cure of foundered horses by excision of about two inches of the principal nerves on each side of the pastern joint, has succeeded beyond expectation. A horse of no value whatever, from his lameness, belonging to Mr. Stafford O'Brien, near Lincoln, had a short time ago, the operation performed upon him with such success, that from being quite a cripple, he is now equal, in speed and leaping, to most of the horses in Lord Londale's hunt.

It is not perhaps generally known, that the King of Wirtemberg and his late Queen were to each other the object of the first affection; but that some state reason, or the authority of their superiors, had intervened, and compelled each of them to marry another. The King, at that time Prince of Wirtemberg, was compelled to marry the Lady now the Empress of Austria, and the late Queen was obliged to accept the hand of the Duke of Oldenburg. But though the ceremony passed between the Prince of Wirtemberg and the present Empress of Austria, the consorts, if so they may be called, never afterwards met each other except in the presence of a third person; and when the authority of Buonaparte was extinguished by the battle of Waterloo, a divorce was solicited and procured by both parties, and the Princess of Wirtemberg became the Empress of Austria. The Duchess of Oldenburg having become a widow at the same period, the Prince and the Duchess were united, and ever, till the day of her death, exhibited a rare example of domestic happiness in royal life.

The late Mr. William Lane's fine drawing of the Friends of the Right Honourable Charles James Fox, grouped round the bust of that lamented Statesman, and in which all the portraits are from the life, has been purchased by a subscription of the Members of the Club at Brooks's.

Twelve medals given by the French Government to the Orleans Library, have recently been deposited there. The following are the celebrated men to whose memory they are consecrated:—Bacon, Copernicus, Cervantes, Shakspeare, Galileo, Linnæus, Gluck, Gessner, Haydn, Lavater, Kosciusko, and Cimarosa.

A fight between a bull and one of Mr. Wombell's lions, which were exhibiting at Norwich, was to take place in the course of the Easter week, at Newmarket.

Several young men of Birmingham, who were educated at the Blue-coat School of that town, have formed themselves into a Society, and agreed to deposit a per centage of their respective earnings, to form a fund to make an annual gift to the Institution which fostered them in their early youth.

The Dublin Evening Post of January last says, The Protestant Petition for Catholic Emancipation goes on with the best success. To the names of Leinster, Charlemont, Meath, and Cloncurry, we have to add those of Grattan and his two sons. It is expected that Mr. Shaw, the other Representative, would also sign it.—The course after this would be to apply to what is called, in Municipal language, the City; but, as the Corporation is quite distinct from Dublin—as, indeed, it is now considered an excrescence growing out of and devouring its sap—it is not to be expected that it can have any feeling in common with the Citizens. It is thought, however, that one or two Aldermen will sign, particularly Alderman Warner. Mr. Grattan, and his Sons, have declared their intention of being present; the Bar will sign in great numbers, and the Requisition will be one of the most imposing ever presented to a Lord Mayor,

## ASIA.

**Madras.**—The Madras Courier of the 22d of June, which reached us yesterday, contains the following information from that quarter:

The country is greatly in want of rain, every thing is parched up; the state of the atmosphere, which has been cloudy and oppressed for the last few days, gives promise of some heavy showers, which will afford great relief.

The Epidemic still prevails on the Coromandel coast. Several Europeans had been attacked by it, and one or two of the 13th Dragoons just after their landing at Madras, fell victims to this dreadful scourge.

The troop ship Lady Nugent was expected to go to sea about the 26th of June. The drafting of the 8th Regiment of Foot was nearly over, and the remainder of that Regiment was expected to embark about the end of the month.

His Majesty's ship Eden, Captain Loch, arrived at Madras on the 17th of June from the Persian Gulph and Bombay.

His Excellency the Admiral has returned to Trincomalee.

The Address to the Most Noble the Marquis of Hastings, was to remain at the Exchange for signature until the evening of Saturday the 26th of June, when the book, was to be finally closed.

The two following Resolutions were adopted at the meeting of the Committee held on the 16th of June:

Resolved:—That the subscription book (for the Star) be circulated at the Presidency.

Resolved:—That signatures or subscriptions be received by "the Secretary to the meeting" if properly authorised by gentlemen to affix their names.

(Signed) A. SCOTT, Chairman.

**Nypaul.**—The rains had not set in at the date of the last advices from Nypaul, which reach to the 24th of June. The Cholera had made its appearance there, and the earthquake, which was felt in Calcutta and throughout the greater part of the provinces subject to Bengal, was felt also, it appears, about the same hour at Katmandoo.

**Jeypoor.**—The following interesting information regarding the city of Jeypoor, is communicated in the Government Gazette of yesterday:

"The notes of an intelligent correspondent, to whom we have been indebted on a former occasion, have enabled us to give a rapid sketch of the present appearance of the celebrated city of Jeypoor. The Rajah, Jey Sing, is well known for having been a great encourager of European science, and it is mentioned at Jeypoor that the plan of the city was laid out by an Italian who had gone thither in his early youth, and who was specially sent by the Rajah to Europe to be instructed in the knowledge of the arts and sciences necessary for the completion of his plans. The Italian was amply supplied with the means of obtaining every sort of information, and after several years, returned to Jeypoor. It is added, to his honor, that he brought back with him a very considerable portion of the money that had been advanced to him, and that he died in the city which his talents and ingenuity had principally formed. It is possible that this story may not be correct in every particular, but it is certain that the arrangement of the buildings and streets of Jeypoor is superior to the genius of a Rajpoot, or any other native of India. In 1779, Jeypoor became the refuge and sanctuary of Hindoo learning, and it was from thence that Colonel Polier procured the first complete copy of the Vedas, which he afterwards presented to the British Museum. The manner in which they were obtained is related in the memoir of that distinguished character, published in our paper of the 22d of January 1818. Don Pedro de Silva was at that

time Physician to the Rajah, and many other Europeans were entertained at court for the cultivation of scientific pursuits. With such a disposition, there can be little doubt that the Rajah availed himself of European taste and skill, for the purpose of improving and embellishing his city. The liberality and magnificence of his patronage seem to diffuse over the period in which he reigned, though in an inferior degree, the charm which gave importance to that of Augustus.

The annexed account is the result of a very short visit to the splendid capital of the Rajpoots.

The city of Jeypoor is enclosed on three sides by hills of a moderate height, surmounted with several forts and other works, but at such a distance from the town as not to afford it much protection. The hills, though apparently destitute of verdure, have with their white forts a very pretty aspect; the town has also a good and lofty wall of stone, and the gates are double, with large open courts between. To the west the city is open, with the exception of the wall, but here are several old castle-like forts, by which the plain is overlooked and commanded. As these fortifications are frequently met with in Rajpootana, they do not denote the vicinity of a royal residence, nor does any thing else in the neighbourhood—the few villages scattered about, having the usual appearance of meanness and poverty, and the country is particularly desolate and unpleasant from its deep sand, a belt of which seems to encircle Jeypoor to the extent of three or four kos. On first entering the city by the western or Ajmeer gate, the breadth of the street, as well as the apparent regularity with which the houses have been built, excites some surprise, but here, as in all the outer parts, much ruin prevails. It is not until we reach the main street or Chouk, that the extraordinary beauty of Jeypoor strikes the stranger, as much with delight as with the utmost astonishment, to behold an Asiatic city so agreeably different to all he has seen before. Instead of narrow miserable streets, across which, as at Benares and elsewhere, one might almost leap, and large houses crowded with filthy huts, here is one, which for extent, width, and regularity, might be considered noble in any part of Europe. It is two miles long, with breadth of between 80 and 90 feet. The houses from end to end on either side have the most exact and pleasing uniformity, except at the corners, where other streets run into this, and here, in some places are the Rajpoot temples, and in other situations ornamented cupola-buildings opposing each other, which give a gay and tasteful variety to the scene.

This Chouk is wholly a series of shops or ware-houses, and the buildings are confined to the ground floor, but above them rises a sort of balustrade, or open screen, of fretwork masonry, and this again is crowned by a very pretty light turret. The whole is white, and the general effect singularly beautiful. It is somewhat in decay towards the extreme ends of the street, where the population, as in the suburbs, generally had become scanty, from the miseries suffered in this country, but already are repairs in several quarters carrying on. From the Palace, which forms apparently almost an entire quarter of the city, rises a lofty minar of a very elegant form, overlooking the Chouk, into which run other streets of almost equal width to that already described, regularly meeting each other at a central point, where the Chouk forms several squares, and in the middle of these are large reservoirs of masonry, now dry, as also the channel of the canal running through the city by which they were formerly supplied. The works however appear throughout in the most excellent order, and add greatly, even without water, to the beauty of the city, which, it may be here observed, presents a rare and most pleasing appearance of cleanliness. The Chowringhee-road is not neater,

\* Two miles or 25 furlongs, by perambulator—The breadth is from guess by pacing.

and when a street of nearly the same length, perhaps of greater breadth, and the most pleasing uniformity in its buildings, is brought before the eye, accustomed in other Asiatic cities to all that is disagreeably the reverse in every respect, the very powerful and lively effect of the contrast may be easily conceived.

There is one drawback to this in the number of little temporary sheds for the sale of goods in the very centre of the streets; they are of wood, or the common grass reed (surput), and also abound in the squares, where they are covered over with white cloth and filled up with bales of goods, like a large fair. Although the eye is somewhat hurt by this Indian custom, the space is so ample that no inconvenience arises from it, while it gives a busy trading character to the city, and affords protection to the inhabitants from the sun. The temples are of stone, and in them the most elaborate curious workmanship is thrown away on figures, without taste or proportion; yet take these buildings altogether, viewing them from a little distance, their forms, though somewhat grotesque, are by no means destitute of beauty. They would be gladly adapted to give an oriental feature to an European park. The ringing of their bells in the evening, the cries of the wandering, traders, and the hum of the busy multitude collected in the Chouk, with the display of all sorts of merchandize, from the gay kimkhab, to the musk melon, (of which the neighbouring sandy plains give great abundance), form with the pleasing situation a most lively picture. The gates only of the Palace present themselves to the streets, (with the exception of one building,) and the interior could not at this time be seen. The Palace is said to possess within itself spacious tanks, groves, &c. and to have many buildings of fine white marble—that just alluded to, is the Hawa khana. Intention or imagination has given it the form of a peacock's tail, full spread, and certainly looking for such a conceit it comes home to the eye without much exertion of fancy.—It is a pretty light building, but has no character of magnificence, abounds in little windows, seeming to mark the gaudy spots of the tail, and is crowned with small gilt spires, &c.—The rooms must be very narrow, as one can from the street almost see through them.

The fine extensive city, once the great mart between Delhi and the south of India, has a vast number of large houses very superior to what is commonly seen among natives, yet not without the faults they usually display; such as low rooms, small windows, &c. But to this there are exceptions, and throughout Jeypoor, there prevails a comfortable cleanliness, and a taste so striking in its plan and style of decoration, that the stranger involuntarily, when he reaches its interior, stops to gaze with the most agreeable satisfaction and surprise.—Though all without has a cheerless desert wildness, here all is life and bustle; and the Bazar appears to be excellently provided. Considering the many miseries to which this city must have been subject, during the long period Meer Khan was encamped near it, and possessed in effect the whole province, its present appearance may be just cause for wonder.—The place where the Chief just mentioned breached a wall, running from the town up the hills to the Fort, is observable from the new work by which it is filled up. At the distance of six or seven miles from Jeypoor is the Rajah's Country Palace of Amber, said to be very beautiful; but as the interior could not be seen at this period we did not go so far. The country between Ajmeer and Jeypoor has all that cheerless, half desolate aspect, common to Rajpootana, but that its state is already greatly improved must be evident to every observer. Few villages new are seen in total ruin; much cultivation prevails in parts, and the traveller falls in occasionally with passengers and loaded cattle, which was by no means the case fifteen months ago. Ajmeer is certainly a more agreeable province than Jeypoor. It is not so sandy, the towns and villages appear to have suffered less, and fine groves with pieces of water are

often met with, refreshing the heart and eye. The near cantonment, Husseerabad (the British "local habitation" with "a name") has already within a few months assumed its proper form, by dint of the most preserving exertion, for shelter, and this it abundantly exhibits in all the varieties of taste and fancy. The cantonment is about eight miles from Jeypoor. The situation is high, and promises to be very healthy, and indeed it has hitherto been so. At a distance rise the hills of Ajmeer, near which the first British Ambassador had his presentation.

### Supreme Court.

#### *Presentment of the Grand Jury, for the Third Sessions of 1819.*

Previously to their discharge, the Grand Jury are desirous of submitting for the consideration of the Court, the sentiments with which they have been impressed, by a careful attention to the various cases which have come before them at the present sessions.

The Jury have derived considerable gratification on perceiving, that although the calendar presented an unusual number of offences, few of them were of a heinous nature, and that in the solitary charge of murder, therein recorded, the accused party was not, properly speaking, domiciled in Calcutta.

While, however, the Jury have thus had less duty of a painful nature to perform, than has occurred in many previous sessions, they have observed with much regret, an augmentation in the lesser crimes of theft and fraud.

The Grand Jury have noticed with sentiments of deep concern, the various cases of forgery brought forward in the present sessions—forgery of the most aggravated description, commenced by the parties, with the deliberate intention of supporting, by perjury, acts of fraud, and extortion against the most helpless part of the community; and it is on record that they frequently obtain their iniquitous end by means of such perjury, through the process of a court of justice.

The Jury apprehend that the crime above alluded to has been carried to a considerable extent. It would seem that the constitution of the Court of Requests, where so many and various causes are daily decided, is inadequate to prevent the combinations of deliberate and complicated villany, which it is feared, are but partially represented in the calendar of the present sessions.

If it should appear, on inquiry, that one cause of the evil above noticed, exists in the multiplicity of business in the Court of Requests, rendering it impracticable for the Commissioners minutely to investigate each particular case, and that the present number of Commissioners is insufficient for that purpose, the Jury would suggest an increase of their number.

The Jury are of opinion, that if the Commissioners of the Court of Requests, were armed with a power of instantly committing for trial such deliberate and hardy miscreants, as dare to clothe their iniquitous acts of forgery and perjury, with the authority of that court, a judicious use of such delegated power might tend to prevent similar delinquencies.

The Jury concur in opinion with the Hon'ble and Learned Judge, from whom they received their charge at the opening of the sessions, in believing that the crime of forgery would be more effectually prevented, were the penalty of the offence, either hard labour, or solitary confinement for a limited period, instead of transportation. And the Jury are also of opinion, that the fundamental principles of justice require that no criminal should in any manner reap the benefit of property,

nefariously acquired, which is unavoidable, under the present mode of punishment by transportation.

The latest accounts from England encourage the expectation that a revision of the criminal code, especially as relating to forgery, will soon take place; lest, however, that revision should not be extended to this country, the Jury would beg to suggest, that a communication be now made on this subject to the proper authorities at home.

The Grand Jury respectfully submit these observations to the consideration of the Court; regretting, however, that the necessary occupation of their time, with the numerous cases contained in the calendar of the present sessions, has not enabled them to deliberate more maturely upon the subject.

For and on behalf of the Grand Jury, by their Foreman,

(Signed) J. MACKILLOP.

Calcutta, 3rd July, 1819.

### Court of Requests.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

In the Number of your Journal of the 30th ultimo, you have given place to what you allege to be precisely the substance of the Charge of Sir Francis Macnaghten, addressed to the Grand Jury, at the opening of the Sessions of Oyer and Terminer, on the 16th of June.

I do not pretend, Sir, to call in question, what it would be folly to dispute, that it is the duty of a Judge in charging the Grand Jury, to direct their attention to every point connected with the administration of Justice, that may, in his opinion, require investigation; and however injudicious he may be in the selection of the subjects he may propose, as deserving their enquiry; however erroneous may be the impressions alleged as the motives for recommending such matters to their scrutiny; however intemperate may be the language in which those opinions may be expressed, they come forth in their proper place and clothed in a panoply of official dignity that renders them unassailable by any but those to whom they are directly addressed. But if the Judge, laying aside his robes of office, descend from his bench and through the medium of the press offer sentiments or assertions to the world injurious to the character, either public or private, of any man, or body of men, he holds out to those whom he so attacks, a direct challenge to fair and equal combat, divested of all extrinsic protection, and shielded only by the merits of his cause.

So long, therefore, as there was a possibility that accusations so injurious to the character of the Court of Requests, and so mischievous in their tendency in a public point of view as those to which you have given publicity, would be enquired into by the Grand Jury to whom they are said to have been addressed in the first instance, I refrained from noticing them; well assured that if such inquest were made, nothing further would be necessary for their complete and triumphant refutation. Their forbearance is to me satisfactory proof of their sentiments on the subject; and had those charges been advanced before no other tribunals than the Grand Jury, and the Public of Calcutta, I should have deemed the task of noticing them altogether superfluous. But your columns have conveyed these aspersions to every corner of the British Empire in India, and they will thence be re-echoed to our friends and fellow-citizens in our native country itself. On these grounds I desire that you will give this full and unequivocal denial of the charges you have been the channel of bringing before the world, the same publicity that you have afforded to the alleged report of the Speech in which they are found.

I begin then by denying the position, on which so much stress has been laid, that the business of the Court of Requests is so conducted as to render it impossible to prosecute witnesses who have perjured themselves there; for such witnesses have been prosecuted before the Supreme Court; and, were the Commissioners not restrained by grave and well weighed considerations, they could easily step out of the direct line of their duty to multiply such instances, as there is nothing in their modes of proceeding which can prevent prosecutions of witnesses perjured before them from being conducted with the same facility as if the perjury had been committed in any other Court, where the evidence is *not* matter of record. These considerations have oftener than once been submitted to Sir Francis's superiors both on the Bench, and in the Government, and standing approved by such authority, I shall not stop to enter into the discussion of their wisdom in this place; suffice it to say that were all the witnesses in the Supreme Court whose evidence is considered by the Judges false, and so treated in their decisions, to be tried before them for perjury, and the false witnesses in those trials again to be prosecuted, the Sessions would not afford time enough for the investigation of this one species of crime as committed there alone. I could quote the opinions of the ablest and most enlightened Judges that have ever sat upon the bench in India as authority for the assertion that until some means are devised of instilling more correct moral principles into the minds of the natives than they have at present any opportunity of imbibing, truth is never to be expected from them; and that no one in a judicial situation in this country can with any safety give the slightest credit to direct evidence considered simply in itself, and unsupported by evidence of a collateral and circumstantial description. Those great men had too profound a knowledge of human nature to suppose that penal laws, administered by the tardy and uncertain apparatus of a Supreme Court, could ever prove adequate to remove an evil which had its root so deeply seated as the first rudiments of education and religious belief. But as neither Sir Francis, nor the Commissioners of the Court of Requests are legislators, his or their opinions on this subject are of little importance, and I shall therefore discuss them no further—quite satisfied with knowing that the conduct of the Commissioners with respect to perjured witnesses has been, though not officially, yet in fact submitted to and approved of by those who had the right, as well as capacity, to judge of its propriety. It is more to my present purpose to observe the singular circumstance that Sir Francis's experience should not yet have taught him that false testimony abounds as much in the Court where he has himself sat at the Bar or on the Bench for so many years, as it can in any other Court where evidence is taken only to the same extent; and that after so long a residence, he should be ignorant that there is no Court in the country where a false prejudice amongst the natives does not make it a disparagement to be examined on Oath.

But to the Public, the most important of all the charges against the Court of Requests is that which is conveyed in the following passages:

"He knew it had been said, from the multiplicity of business in the Court, that the Commissioners had not time to enter into a minute examination of such particular case."—"He said, that the Commissioners would be very far from receiving thanks for supplies which might be diminished by a satisfactory examination of every case that is brought before them."—"that the people are subject to suffer by over hasty proceedings."—"If the number of suits instituted, was the cause of not having sufficient time for a full investigation of their merits."—"The best mode of preventing such attempts would be by an investigation likely to bring out the truth."—"He felt certain that a careful enquiry into every case would go far towards the prevention of fraudulent experiments."—"If such unfounded claims are to be imposed at the pleasure of a fraudulent claimant, its consequence



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is all this at the will of remorseless wretches, &c." Throughout all these paragraphs the fact of "no enquiry" is taken as admitted, and as even apologised for by the allegation that the number of suits is too great to admit of investigation. But where is the fact that authorizes the position that the Commissioners of the Court of Requests ever did refuse to hear any relevant defence set up before them? or that it ever was possible for any fraudulent plaintiff to enforce unfounded claims against any one at their pleasure? I assert for myself, and as far as I have ever seen, I can do the same for my colleagues, that the Commissioners never did in any contested case before them, pass their decree for the plaintiff, until they were satisfied of the justness of his demand after careful examination of evidence, or other reasonable ground of conviction. The peremptoriness of those assertions may perhaps be considered as modified by a subsequent paragraph, where it is said, that "between leaving a few who voluntarily contract without any remedy, and subjecting all who may never have had any dealings with their prosecutors, to such grievances as he would not say *did*, but were represented to exist," &c.

I venture, however, not only to challenge Sir Francis Macnaghten to produce a single statement showing that such grievances as are stated in the Speech given as his, ever *did* exist, but also defy him to state any such representation made to him as could possibly warrant a conviction on his part, of their existence.

I deny too that any one, who took the trouble of enquiring into the matter, could imagine, that the multiplicity of business in the Court of Requests is such, as to give to the Commissioners the excuse, that they have *not time* to enter into a minute examination of each contested case; for every person, who has any thing to do with the Court knows, that summonses, and its other processes, are returnable only on three days in each week; and that only a small portion of the remaining three days has been found necessary for the examination of causes, which the Commissioners have been unable to overtake on the regular Court days.

If Sir Francis ground his belief of the multiplicity of our business on the official reports made to the Supreme Court, of the number of causes instituted in the Court of Requests, and of the manner in which these are disposed of, it is to be regretted, that he has not examined those documents with a little more attention. He would there have found, that *two-thirds* of all the Defendants cited to appear before the Court, settle the matter in dispute with their Plaintiffs without litigation. Had he attended to this fact, he never could have published to the world so monstrous an idea, as that one-half of all the suits instituted there, are unfounded or fraudulent. Had he even glanced his eye over the reports a second time, he would have seen, that nearly one-half of the Plaintiffs, who had not been able to effect a compromise with their creditors, are unsuccessful in proving their demands; and looking to this fact, he would have paused before he attempted to impress the Public with the belief, that fraudulent claimants can, at their pleasure, by means of the Court of Requests, extort what sums they please from the honest and laborious.

Again, had he sought any explanation from the Commissioners, he would have been informed, that three-fifths of the causes decreed, are in cases, where the Defendant has confessed judgement, or has allowed judgement to pass *ex-parte*. A reference to the proceedings of a single day would have served, moreover, to convince him, that even in contested cases the defence set up, is often totally irrelevant to the matter in dispute; that at other times it is offered unsupported by evidence; and that the investigation of causes, where the authenticity of a written document is the point at issue, does not amount to any considerable proportion of the business before the Commissioners. My own experience is, that this defence is not set up in one of a hundred causes instituted; and I have not a

doubt, that, had I leisure to examine the proceedings of my colleagues, I should find a similar proportion prevail generally. Sir Francis indeed, is not bound to know this fact; but neither has he any right to build on a contrary assumption, without taking some pains to inform himself of the stability of the ground of his remarks.

I will not take the pains to point out the insidious manner in which the multiplicity of business is stated, as a possible excuse for want of attention in the investigation of causes; as if the evil itself were incontrovertible, and the apology offered by ourselves, or our friends. But were I come to the insinuation that follows in the same paragraph, so artfully couched as to convey with it the force, and leave the impression of a direct assertion, I confess I can hardly trust myself with the expressions of the feelings it excites.

The words I allude to are those, "*he had also heard it urged*," "that the revenue arising from fees paid by the suitors of that Court was considerable. He was at a loss, he said, to conjecture what was meant by it; although he had no authority to say any thing on this topic, he ought not to conceal that he had casually had conversations with several members of this government, and was convinced that they would be sorry indeed to have their Treasury enriched at the expence of Justice; that the Commissioners would be very far from receiving thanks for supplies which might be diminished by a satisfactory examination of every case that is brought before them.

"He would, he said, avow in his judgement, it would be greatly for the advantage of the people, who are subject to suffer by over hasty proceedings, to submit at once to an arbitrary imposition, by which ten times the amount of the sums levied in the Court of Requests, might be brought into the treasury."

If these words have any point or meaning at all, it is to impress the world with the idea, that the Commissioners have willingly lent themselves to enrich the Treasury at the expense of Justice. If this be really their purport, I repel the aspersion with indignation, as imputing to us a dereliction of principle that, if it existed, would justify our being placed in a lower class of infamy, even, than those miscreants, of whose machinations we are alleged to be the instruments.

To be compelled to adduce proofs, in order to refute vague declamation, pointed insinuation, or even direct charges, in support of which, not a single fact is even alleged, is an injustice or rather cruelty worthy of the Inquisition itself; but even from this mode of trial, I do not shrink. I have offered proof, that the motives assigned for negligence in the discharge of our duty, have no existence; and it shall in another place be shewn, that the case, which brought the subject of the Court of Requests before the notice of the learned Judge, is in itself a satisfactory instance of the carefulness of our enquiry in contested causes.

This would however involve a detail too long for admission into your Journal; and I shall therefore content myself, with bringing in concert with my colleagues, that and other matter relevant to the subject to the notice of the Government, under whose authority we act, and who are entitled to know, that the confidence they have placed in their servants, is well founded.

I will conclude without offering any reflections on the conduct which has dragged me as a Defendant before the Public. This tribunal, to which, it seems, Sir Francis has thought proper to appeal, will judge of that, as well as of my defence; and on its decision, I confidently rely both for acquittal and redress.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

G. J. GORDON,

3d Commissioner of the Court of Requests.

Calcutta,  
July 8, 1819.

## Parliamentary Paper.

*Report of the Committee to whom the Establishment of her late Majesty, and the Estimate of the Expenses of the proposed Establishment of his Majesty's future Household at Windsor, were referred, have agreed to the following Report:—*

Your Committee have deemed it to be their duty, in the first place, to take into their consideration the arrangement which has been proposed for the future establishment of his Majesty.

By the Act of the 52d George III., c. 8, the sum of 100,000*l.* was directed to be set apart annually, out of the Civil List, for the expence of the King's household; and any surplus, after defraying this charge, was to be applied to the purpose of his Majesty's Civil Establishment.

It appears to your committee, that the reduction, which is proposed in that expenditure, of one half, may with propriety be made; and that an annual sum of 50,000*l.* will be sufficient to provide for this service, and they refer to the estimates, under the different heads, annexed to this report.

In considering the scale and expence of the establishment which it is necessary to form, while they approve of the discontinuance of the salaries of certain of the Officers of State, who have hitherto, since his Majesty's indisposition, been retained, yet your committee recommend that, at the head of the establishment, an officer of the rank of the Groom of the Stole should be placed, as they deem it important to have a person of rank and of high station, connected with the King's service, generally residing near his Majesty's person. For the same reasons it appears expedient, that one of the King's equerries (the number of whom, in the judgment of the Committee, ought to be limited to four) should be in daily and constant attendance at Windsor.

In the examination of the estimates for defraying the charge of proposed tables, and for the other branches of expenditure at Windsor, your Committee have received satisfactory explanations respecting them from Colonel Stephenson, to whom the superintendence of the King's household has been in a great degree confided.

It appears to them, that the estimates have been framed, for the services to which they are to be applied, with a due attention to economy; and they refer particularly to "the explanatory statement of the Estimate for the Expence of His Majesty's Household," which is annexed. A large portion of the expence which, as your committee are informed, cannot be estimated at less than one-third of the whole amount, will be, at all events, to be incurred by the maintenance of Windsor Castle as a Royal residence, and ought not to be set down as exclusively belonging to the establishment of his Majesty. The names and descriptions of the officers whose salaries have been discontinued will be found in the appendix, together with a list of the menial servants who have been reduced; and the amount of the wages and appointments which the latter received in the King's reserve.

Your committee next proceeded to the subject of the establishment of her late Majesty, which had been referred to their consideration.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent having been pleased, by his gracious message, to place at the disposal of Parliament, the sum of 58,000*l.* per ann., in consequence of her Majesty's demise, and at the same time to recommend to the House of Commons, the claims founded on the faithful services of those who formed the separate establishment of her Majesty, in order that the house might be enabled to judge what part of that sum it may be advisable to apply to the annual provision for such persons, your committee have obtained accounts of such allowances as were made to the officers and servants of Queen Mary, on her demise, in the year 1694; of Queen Caroline, in 1737; and to the household of the Princess Dowager of Wales, in 1772: amounting annually, for the establishment of Queen Mary, to 15,278*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*; to that Queen Caroline, to 19,812*l.*; and for the household of the Princess Dowager of Wales, to 19,702*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.*

The grants, in the instances referred to, were not brought under the consideration or view of Parliament, but were paid out of the civil list revenues; an annual saving on these revenues having been made by the discontinuance of the respective Royal establishments, to a greater extent than those allowances amounted to. In the year 1782, by the act passed for the regulation of the civil list, the amount of pensions to be granted out of the civil list revenues was limited, and in consequence of that limitation, and the present charge on the pension list, it is not possible to place such

allowances as it may be wished to grant to the Queen's servants upon that fund; but the whole sum of 58,000*l.*, which was annually paid to the Queen, being now at the disposal of Parliament, it remains for Parliament to make such provision in this respect as it may in its liberality think fit.

In offering for the consideration of the house the annexed scale of pensions recommended for the servants of her late Majesty, while your committee have had in view the expectations which those persons may reasonably have entertained, as to the provision which would be made for them, when their services should cease, they yet feel it to be their duty to submit to the House, that this recommendation should not be drawn into precedent on the formation of future establishments.

It will be observed, that the state officers, as well as some others, to whom their salaries were continued for life, in the instances referred to, do not appear in the list which is proposed. The general principle which has been adopted in framing it, being to suggest a provision for the female part of the Queen's household, and for the domestic officers and menials of whom the greater proportion have been for many years, and during the course of a long reign, atached to her service, the amount of this provision, together with the pension to be continued to such as were the objects of her Majesty's benevolence, is less than was given upon the two last occasions which have been noticed, without taking into account the difference in the value of money at those periods and at the present.

If parliament shall approve of what has been here submitted, legislative enactments will be required to carry those regulations into effect. It will be necessary to alter that part of the act of the 52d Geo. III. cap. 8. which appoints the attendants on the King's Person, and also to regulate the sum to be in future appropriated for defraying the expence of his Majesty's household. That clause also, of the 56 Geo. III. c. 46. which enacts, that whenever the charge upon the civil list shall exceed, in any one year, 1,100,000*l.* an account of the exceeding, and the cause thereof, shall be laid before parliament, must be amended, so as to require a similar account to be submitted, whenever that charge of the civil list shall be limited, by the reductions which are now proposed.

## Nautical.

(From the Bombay Gazette of June 16, 1819.)

We give place to the following correspondence with the greater pleasure, as, putting professional feeling out of the question, we are always happy in finding the sentiment of a much admired poet not quite laid aside.

"Shou'd auld acquaintance be forgot?"

To Mr. Jamsctjee Bomanjee, Master builder, &c. Bombay.

Mr. Anderson presents his compliments to Mr. Jamsctjee Bomanjee, and will feel highly gratified if he will have the goodness to accept of the accompanying clock, as a small mark of esteem, and kind of remembrance that, under Divine Providence, his professional abilities was the happy means of preserving Mr. H. and the rest of the crew of his Majesty's ship Salsette from what appeared to the human eye unavoidable destruction; that ship, with five other small vessels of war, and twelve valuable merchantmen under their convoy, being beset by the ice in the Baltic sea, in the winter of 1808-9, and she alone escaped shipwreck.

Ship Stakesby, Bombay, 14th June.

To Captain W. Henderson, Ship Stakesby.

DEAR SIR,

I have received the gratifying note you have been pleased to address to me, requesting my acceptance of a clock, 'as a small mark of esteem and remembrance that, under Divine Providence, my professional ability was the happy means of preserving yourself and the rest of the crew of His Majesty's ship Salsette from what appeared to the human eye unavoidable destruction; that ship, with five other small vessels of war, and twelve valuable merchantmen under their convoy being beset by the ice, in the Baltic sea, in the winter of 1808-9, and she alone escaped shipwreck.'

If my acquaintance with the English language had been much more extensive and perfect than it is, I should have been still una-

ble to convey to you the pride and gratification I feel at so disinterested and generous a testimony to the utility of my humble endeavours, in the particular case you have alluded to.

The Salsette, (first named the Pitt,) was, you are aware, our first effort in frigate building for the Navy, and you will forgive me when I say, that the praise I received on that occasion was, in a great measure owing to the very seamanlike style of the Pitt's equipment, under your superintendence as first Lieutenant, in charge of her.

I had heard a rumour of the Salsette's escape, while frozen in the Baltic; but to have this rumour confirmed, by an officer in his Majesty's Service, who had first contributed to her debut, as a man of war, and who had subsequently, under Providence, witnessed the strength of her hull, in withstanding a danger that overwhelmed so many vessels in company, is more gratifying to me than I can find words to express. I accept the clock, therefore, as a mark of your esteem; and shall never look upon it but with feelings of similar esteem for the donor, and the sincerest wishes for his success and prosperity.

I remain, My Dear Sir, Yours &c.

Bombay, June 15, 1819.

JAMSETJEE BOMANJEE.

### Military.

General Orders, by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor General in Council.

FORT WILLIAM, JULY 3, 1819.

The Most Noble the Governor General in Council is pleased to make the following Appointments, which are to have effect from the 1st Proximo:

Captain William Swinton of the 21st Regiment of Native Infantry, to be Barrack Master of the 4th, or Ghazepore District, vice Patterson, deceased.

Brevet Captain T. F. Hutchinson of the 5th Regiment of Native Infantry, to be Fort Adjutant of Delhi, in the room of Captain Gowan, nominated a District Barrack Master.

Lieutenant J. J. Casement of the 19th Regiment of Native Infantry, to the Command of the Dromedary Corps, in the room of Lieutenant J. W. Patton, nominated a District Barrack Master.

The following Appointments were made by His Lordship in Council in the Political Department, under date the 12th and 26th ultimo:

Captain John Canning of the 27th Regiment of Native Infantry, to be Political Agent at Anuragabad, under the Resident at Hyderabad.

Captain H. Maxwell of the 22d Regiment of Native Infantry, to Command the Guard attached to the Resident for the States of Bundelcund.

Lieutenant Colonel Robert Francis of the 4th Regiment of Native Infantry, is transferred to the Invalid Pension Establishment, from the 1st instant.

Subadar Shaick Ahmed is promoted to the Rank of Subadar Major in the 2d Battalion 20th Regiment of Native Infantry, vice Sonant Sing, deceased on the 17th of January, 1819.

The Most Noble the Governor General in Council considering it inexpedient, that Fortresses of such peculiar importance as Agra and Asseerghur, should be left to the chance Command of the Officer who may happen to be at the head of any Battalion temporarily stationed in them, is pleased to resolve, that those Fortresses be henceforth constituted permanent Government Commands, with the same scale of Staff Salary, viz. Rupees (500) Five Hundred per mensem, as granted for the Command of Allahabad.

His Lordship in Council is pleased to make the following Appointment.

Surgeon John Sawers to be Superintendent of the Insane Hospital at the Presidency, vice Robinson, deceased.

The Most Noble the Governor General in Council is pleased to make the following Appointments:

Lieutenant-Colonel D. McLeod, C. B., of the 11th Regiment of Native Infantry, to be Commandant of the Fortress of Agra.

Surgeon Robert Lowe of the 9th Regiment of Native Infantry, to officiate as superintending surgeon, during the absence of Superintending Surgeon O'Neil, on leave beyond sea, on sick certificate.

W. CASEMENT, Lt. Col. Sec. to Govt. Mil. Dept.

### BOMBAY GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

General Orders, by the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council, Bombay Castle, 4th June, 1819.

The following Promotions and Appointments are ordered to take place:

#### Medical Establishment.

Assistant Surgeon George Whigham to be Surgeon, vice Stewart resigned.—Date of Commission, 23d May 1819.

Assistant Surgeon John McNeill is appointed Garrison Assistant Surgeon of Bombay, vice Moyle.

Bombay Castle, 7th June, 1819.

The office of the Quarter Master of the Artillery having been consolidated with that of Adjutant to the Battalion, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to appoint the Fort Adjutant of Bombay to be a Member of the Standing Committee of Survey in the room of the Quarter Master of Artillery.

Bombay Castle, 10th June, 1819.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to appoint Sergeant Patrick Cassidy of His Majesty's 17th Regiment of Light Dragoons to act as a Sub Assistant Surgeon with that Regiment until one of the Assistant Surgeons of the Corps may join the Regiment, or until further orders.

By Order of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council,

J. FARISH, Sec. to the Govt.

### Medical.

To the Editor of the Madras Government Gazette.

SIR,

The effects of Opium on the Turks who smoke it, being well known, I beg to submit to your Medical Readers the propriety of its being tried in a similar manner in cases of the Epidemic Cholera at the commencement of the attack.—If it should be insufficient in itself alone, it may prove a valuable auxiliary to other remedies.

It may probably be necessary for the patient to smoke it rapidly, and in considerable quantity, to accelerate its action.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,  
Bangalore, 6th June, 1819. G. W.

### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

If the writer who signs himself "DETECTOR," and who complains of our being guilty of plagiarism in borrowing from the Literary Gazette, without acknowledgment, will take the trouble to turn to the Number of the Calcutta Journal for Sunday last, he will find, after the introductory matter on the subject of Antar, the following paragraph at the head of the second column in the first page:—

"To return, however, to Antar:—we have met in the last Number of the Literary Gazette for January, a judicious selection of some of the prominent features of this Bedouen hero's history, which, as they appear to us to be the very portions we should ourselves select, and are accompanied by appropriate remarks, we desire to present in their original dress."

The selections and the remarks by which they are accompanied, are, we think, here very clearly acknowledged; but as it is beyond our power to furnish both materials for reading, and capacity to comprehend them, we must be content to leave those who do not understand the meaning of words in their own tongue to their pitiable ignorance,—and those who wilfully misconstrue them to their own malicious sneers. We are not anxious to please either.

A writer signing himself "ANY BODY," will find a Solution of the Rebus, in the corner of the Paper of Wednesday, which, as far as we can perceive, is neither immoral nor objectionable in any other point of view. His note is dated Wednesday morning, and an additional remark at the foot of it is dated Wednesday noon, at which period the Solution was as public as the Rebus to which it applied. As however a profession is made of not having seen the Paper itself, and of not having time to look at it—we cannot wonder at the misconception displayed.

We would remark that we are by no means ashamed of being ignorant of the science of expounding riddles, "poor" as this excuse may seem to be; nor is it a department of knowledge which we envy in others. We are not ignorant however of this fact, that there are minds sufficiently corrupt and perverted to see a foul allusion, where none was intended; and if the ambiguity of any sentence should admit of two interpretations, it is not difficult to decide, who does most service to the cause of morality, he who advocates the unexceptionable one, or he who publishes to the world the very indecency he is so ready to censure the bare supposition of in others.

## Domestic Occurrences.

### MARRIAGES.

- June 27. At Digah, near Dinapore, Thomas William Hensing, Esq. youngest Son of the late Colonel John William Hensing, of Dowlat Row Scindiah's service, to Miss Jane Frances Brown, third Daughter of Major General Thomas Brown, commanding the Station of Dinapore.

### BIRTHS.

- June 16. At Meerut, the Lady of J. H. Mathews, Esq. Paymaster of H. M. 14th Foot, of a Son.  
 18. At Madras, the Lady of G. G. Hadow, Esq. of a Daughter.  
 21. At Cawnpore, the Lady of Assistant Surgeon John Woodhouse Martin, of H. M. 22d Foot, of a Daughter.  
 30. At Howrah, the Lady of William Jones, Esq. of a Son.  
 July 4. At Calcutta, the Widow of the late Mr. C. F. Lewis, of a Daughter.

### DEATHS.

- May 10. In camp at Gudduck, Lieutenant Richard Henry Taunton, of His Majesty's 22d Light Dragoons.  
 June 1. At Bangalore, Walter George, the Infant Son of Mr. W. W. Brady, aged 1 year.  
 9. At Madras, Mr. John Gore, aged 29 years.  
 21. At Bhangulpore, John, the Infant Son of John Sturmer, Esq. aged 1 year and 1 day.  
 21. At Commercecolly, William Blanchard, Esq. Indigo Planter.  
 23. At Patna, Ensign Cameron, of the Chumparun Light Infantry.  
 July 5. At Calcutta, Mr. John Binnie, aged 25 years.  
 7. At Calcutta, Miss Frances Ann Dick, eldest Daughter of Colonel George Dick, aged 26 years and 9 months.—“The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away—Blessed be the Name of the Lord.”  
 8. At Calcutta, Benjamin Turner, Esq. Attorney at Law, aged 65.

## Shipping Intelligence.

### CALCUTTA DEPARTURES.

July. Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
7 Triumph	British	F. G. Street	London

### MADRAS DEPARTURES.

June. Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
16 Cochin	British	J. Mathys	Trincomalie

## Nautical Notices.

Our attention having been re-directed to the Island of Juan de Nova, the position assigned to which by the Charles Grant on her voyage from England to Bombay, appeared to differ so widely from the statements given by the latest and most accurate hydrographers; we have reason to believe that the Island spoken of as seen by the Charles Grant, was not the celebrated and well-known Island of that name, in the Mozambique Channel, of which we gave the various positions assigned to it, from Horsburgh; but one of a cluster of inconsiderable islets and rocks, called *The Twelve Islands*, lying to the northward and north-east of Madagascar, and seldom seen or visited by ships in their passage to India. It is the position alone which leads to this conclusion: as, if two Islands exist, bearing the same name, the one of which is popularly known and lying in the track of ships, the other little known and seldom visited—the inference would be that the former was spoken of, if no distinctive explanations accompanied it, inasmuch as if a ship was announced to have arrived in the river having left Portsmouth, Plymouth, or Falmouth, at a certain date, it would be concluded that the ports spoken of were the well-known ones of those names in England, and not either of those in America or the West Indies, of which there are several bearing the same appellations, unless this was specifically stated.

In the lat. of 10° 15' S. and lon. 50° 54' E. there is, however, as we before asserted, no Island whatever laid down: as it is about two degrees of longitude to the westward of the group of the *Twelve Islands*, to which this Juan de Nova, seen by the Charles Grant, belongs.

The description of these by Horsburgh will make this clear, and serve to correct any false inferences that may be drawn from the seeming inaccuracy of the position given to it.

“The group called the *Twelve Islands*, said to be situated about 10 leagues to the N. W. of Juan de Nova is very little known. It seems very probable they are one and the same group, as Juan de Nova is represented by the French plan, to consist of two islands of considerable extent, and ten small ones, making in all the number twelve.

Juan de Nova, in lat. 10° 20' S. supposed lon. about 52. 40' E. is the southernmost of the groups of Islands, north-eastward from Cape Ambre. They are a chain of low islets and reefs, extending N. E. and S. W. about 8 leagues, having a basin in the centre, with 7 or 8 feet water on the bar leading to it, at the north part of the chain, where there is good ground for anchoring. The soil of these islets is mostly coral, on which grow trees of small size. Turtle and fish of various kinds are plenty, but no fresh water is to be obtained, or other refreshments. The tide sets N. E. and S. W. and rises 4 or 5 feet.”

[Horsburgh's Directory, p. 124, Ed. 1809.]

## Commercial Reports.

In a late Number of our Journal, for Friday the 2d of July, we stated that we had heard of a purchase of Cutchora Cotton to the extent of 10,000 Maunds, at 17-4 per Maund, which was the price of that article quoted in the Exchange Price Current of the preceding day. This fact was mentioned to us from a quarter which we considered safe authority, but we have since heard that it must have been inaccurate, as there was not so large a quantity then in the market.

The quantity furnished by the present crop is thought to be scarcely adequate to the supply of the country for its own ordinary manufactures, in consequence of which Cotton is bought up in its passage down the river, and distributed through the interior for domestic consumption. The stoppage of the Matabanga river was the first cause assigned for the small quantity brought to market. The wants of the country, and the scantiness of the crop, are now, however, found to be the real causes; and these operate so unfavorably towards the Calcutta Market, for purchasers at least, that it is affirmed the best quality cannot be delivered here, including all charges, at less than 19 Rupees per Maund.

Cutchora still remains quoted at the former price of 17-4 per Maund in the Price Current of yesterday; though even this is so high, that very few actual purchases are made, as there is no prospect of a market in any quarter of the globe to pay a profit on such a price.

Rice and Sugar have both declined in price; Opium has advanced; and Indigo is quoted, for Violet, 140 to 145, and Copper, lean, from 110 to 120 Rupees per Maund.

The few arrivals of European articles has had the natural effect of enhancing the value of such as are actually in the market, and as Free Traders have slackened in the rapidity with which they formerly succeeded each other in their arrivals, the prices of Europe Goods are likely to advance still higher.

The statement of Shipping in the River Hooghley, on the 1st of July, gives 21 Free Traders, 1 Country Ship for Great Britain, and 47 for Sale or wanting Freight. Freight to Europe, therefore, still continues low, and £7 to 8 a ton is the rate quoted; but £6 for goods to fill up would probably be accepted.

We find that at Bombay there has been an equal stagnation in the purchase of Cotton. It continues, say letters from that quarter, to arrive slowly from the northward, and the holders demand so high a price, that no purchases can be made for the China or any other market at its present rates.

The overstocking of all the foreign markets, and the reluctance that prevails to venture on speculations in the old channels of commerce, renders it very desirable that some changes should occur to open new marts for the capital and enterprise of the merchants of British India.

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